

Success or failure in a poultry venture depends frequently on the owners' ability to care for the little baby chicks. Experts say, do not feed them during the first forty-eight hours of their lives.



Where Town and Country Meet



Legend has it that the apple which Eve ate in the garden of Eden was really a tomato, history claims the vegetable was brought from Peru. We should not concern ourselves about its history, we should be more concerned in getting it in our gardens.

EDITED BY C. H. BLAKELY.

Fruit and Garden Farmers Should Assist Beekeepers



Bees Have Easy Life in Omaha

Gardeners Should Protect Bees by Using Sprays at Proper Time.

Business an Avocation

"Gardening and garden farming as it is done in the average community, especially 'backyard farming,' as the term is applied to those gardens raised on small acre farms and city back lots, should appreciate the program of bee culture," said E. G. Maxwell, county extension agent of Douglas county, Nebraska, in a recent interview. Mr. Maxwell has been president of the Nebraska Honey Producers' association the last two years and has been doing some constructive work relative to perfecting bee farming in Nebraska. He said:

"Beekeeping from its very nature is one of the minor branches of agriculture. It is a means of conserving life for human use, the nectar of the

E. M. Parsons says: "The annual production of honey in the United States has reached the enormous sum of 125,000 tons, or more than 4,000 carloads, more than 5,000,000 pounds of honey being exported from the United States during 1924.

"In addition to this, the bees produced approximately \$2,000,000 worth of beeswax, but even with all of that, there is now a big shortage of beeswax in this country.

"Some people are of the opinion that bees damage fruit, especially grapes, but in this they are greatly mistaken for bees cannot puncture the skin of a grape. Bees have been proven of great benefit to grapes as well as to all kinds of fruit."

"The raw material of honey costs the beekeeper nothing. It has been estimated that on nearly every section of land in Nebraska 1,000 pounds of honey goes to waste each year in the form of raw material or nectar on account of a lack of bees to turn it into the finished product."

"To Avoid Losses." Mr. Maxwell has done considerable work in the community towards explaining the value of bees as agents of cross-pollination. Mr. J. J. Smith, Percy Vogel and John Burgschat are fruit growers who realize the necessity of bees as agents in cross-pollination. These men feel that there is a big advantage in having apiaries of their own in order to insure maximum pollination of their fruit bloom.

Some beekeepers have experienced losses as a result of fruit trees spraying at the wrong time. Mr. Maxwell explained that it was not necessary to spray the fruit trees while in full bloom to control the codling moth, and that spraying at the wrong time was the direct cause of unnecessary losses to the beekeepers in this vicinity. We have repeatedly advised the

Top row, left: An example of poor bee culture. Such apiaries are a source of foul brood infection and a menace to up-to-date beekeepers in the locality. Instead of the modern hives, the hives in this apiary were made from old boxes of all sizes and descriptions.

Top, right: This is a picture of John Burgschat's apiary, north of Florence. Mr. Burgschat is a modern beekeeper and does not spare any efforts to make his work effective.

Center, left: E. W. Aldins, former bee specialist United States Department of Agriculture, explaining some of the fine points of bee culture to Sergt. H. C. Cook, one of Omaha's greatest bee farmers.

Center: One of H. C. Cook's outyards. Cook maintains an apiary within the city limits of Omaha, another at Elk City and this one which is located near Pappio creek, on the Lincoln highway.

Center, right: Leonard Mangold of Bennington and his first start of bees. Leonard started on June 5 with a one-frame nucleus and on September 5, when this picture was taken, he had two colonies of bees and a surplus of honey. Leonard has continued in the bee business, which has been a source of pleasure and profit. He is now a freshman in the University of Nebraska medical college.

Bottom: Sergt. H. C. Cook giving a demonstration to several interested beekeepers of Omaha.

fruit growers to spray only at the proper time in order to avoid these losses.

An Avocation.

F. M. Parsons, connected with the Union Pacific Railway company at Omaha, is affiliated with Mr. Maxwell, being secretary-treasurer of the Nebraska Honey Producers' association. Parsons stresses the fact that beekeeping was a pleasant avocation for the man chained to a city desk. He says:

"Beekeeping is well adapted as a sideline for professional and office workers, affording a very interesting pastime as well as moderate outdoor exercise. It offers a splendid opportunity to young people to engage in a lucrative business which is both pleasant and healthful. Beekeeping has the advantage of requiring but little capital and will pay for itself as the business enlarges.

Beekeeping is not always handled as a sideline. Mr. Maxwell cites as an example, H. C. Cook, who is probably the most experienced beekeeper in this vicinity.

"Cook usually secures 10 to 12 tons of the choicest honey annually while others secure lesser amounts from a few hundred pounds to six or eight tons each season.

Mr. Cook maintains an apiary inside the city limits of Omaha and has two outyards, one near the Pappio creek, west of Omaha, and another near Elk City. Mr. Cook takes advantage of the fact that there is a large amount of nectar available in this vicinity and puts his bees to work to collect the honey. He has very little expense owing to the fact that he maintains no fields of his own to support the bees. The gardener and fruit growers as well as the farmers of the community, realize that it is a case of reciprocation between Mr. Cook and themselves."

There were 29,400,000 more chickens produced in the United States last year than in 1923. A new record was set, totaling over 500,000,000. The consumption and storage of chickens, however, picked up to more than use the overproduction. January 1, 1925, there were about 427,000,000 head upon American farms, compared to 470,000,000 the same time in 1924.

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The picture shows the spirit of gardening as it should prevail in family circles. It is more than a means of lowering the cost of living. It furnishes a medium through which the family can co-operate in healthy exercise. Gardening makes possible triple returns: Added, health and better understanding between the members of the family.

Go to the job this spring with a new determination to make this your banner year in gardening. Plant those kinds and varieties of flowers and seeds which will keep the garden perpetual throughout the summer.

Talk about your garden, write the agricultural editor of The Omaha Bee about it; send in unusual photographs have the children write us about any questions relative to seeds, flowers, flower culture or any other phase of gardening. If we do not know the answer, we'll find out.

It doesn't matter if you live out in the sandhills of Nebraska, up there among the wide rolling plains of the Rosebud country or down here in

the crowded districts of the city. If you are gardening, we would like to know about your success, your problems and ambitions.

Who will be the first to write and tell us about the garden plans? We will publish some of the letters, "kiddie" letters, letters from experts, society gardeners, from anyone who will join with us in making a bigger and better program for gardening.

POULTRY CLUB FORMED AT STRANG

Geneva, Neb., March 21. — Last Saturday afternoon the county agent met with a group of boys and their parents at the hall in Strang for the purpose of discussing boys' and girls' club work. The outcome of the meeting was that a temporary organization of a poultry club was formed. In fact the organization was completed, except for the securing definitely of a local leader and increasing the enrollment. The original enrollment as drawn up last Saturday showed 13 members. The poultry club work offers some advantages not common to some other lines of activities in the boys' and girls' club work. The investment required is comparatively small and returns quick. Ofttimes the income from the sale of broilers and frites within the first three months is enough to more than pay the cost of beginning the work and the feed consumed. Little chick time is here, but if clubs are organized immediately they can still begin the work. Any communities or any boys or girls interested in poultry club work should communicate immediately with the county agent.

Hogs selling at an average of \$12 and better don't tally up very well with beef at an average of \$9. Bring the Rosebud country or down here in on the T-phone with French fries!

FLOCK PROJECT HAS GOOD RESULTS

The geese that laid the golden eggs was all right, but hens enrolled in the accredited flock project are our best bet, right now. They are on the job laying eggs for the hatching season which is in full swing today. If we should happen to kill one for Sunday dinner, our production will not be stopped as was the case with the above mentioned geese.

February, March and April eggs are the ones which will return more money to the flock owner than all of the other seasons because these eggs will be sold or used for hatching purposes.

Now during the month of February, 2,045 hens in Douglas county enrolled in the accredited flock project, laid a total of 22,719 eggs or an average of 11.1 per hen. The total expenses for the month was \$447.18. Total receipts, \$309.77. Net returns over the above feed and other costs, \$462.59. Each of the hens returned to their owners, 22.5 cents. February was cold and these amounts are low. The expense ran much higher than it will run in March or April. The production was high for February in spite of the weather.

Mrs. O. M. Boettger's flock of 211 White Wyandotts made a good record. They laid an average of 10.5 eggs. The expense for the month was \$34.50, returns, \$108.15. The net returns were \$73.65, or 34.9 cents per hen.

Next month we expect the expenses will be much lower and the production increased quite a bit. Even if the groundhog did see his shadow, the first two weeks of March could not have been better. Warmer weather with plenty of sunshine does wonders in the hen yard.

Eggs for Hatching from my Pure-bred White Plymouth Rocks. From accredited flock. Pen No. 1, \$3.00. 15 eggs; Pen No. 2, \$2.15 eggs. From utility flock, \$6.00. 100 \$3.50. 50 \$1.50. 15

H. E. YOUNGMAN,
Valley, Neb.
Phone 146F11

What will happen on the home-stretch?

THE history of the race track is a story of victories by fine blooded horses. It is always a thoroughbred that thrills his owner by coming through on the home-stretch to win.

And there is a similar story of success in the garden. It's the purebred seeds which reward the gardener with a full and complete harvest.

For blood will tell in the garden just as it tells on the race track. Purebred stock has the "stuff"—the vitality and quality which makes it start with vigor and finish a winner instead of an also ran.

Plant Ferry's purebred Seeds because they have a purebred ancestry. The sound, flavorful vegetables you gather—the fragrant flowers that cheer you will prove that it pays to put your faith in these seeds.

We know the history of our seeds. For sixty-nine years we have watched the ideal parent plants, roguing out undesirables, selecting the finest for harvest. Then after each harvest we test these seeds in our great proving grounds to observe their trueness to type.

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